

retirement following 40 years of service in Ohio law enforcement.

Chief Dirker is an outstanding leader, father, and public servant who dedicated himself to serving the people of Northeast Ohio as well as our nation. Prior to his career in law enforcement, he served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

In 1974, Chief Dirker started with the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department, retiring as chief in 2001. He then served for two years as deputy director of safety and security for Cleveland Municipal Schools before he was hired in February 2003 as chief of police for the City of Stow.

In addition to earning his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Akron, Chief Dirker graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2000. He was named a certified law enforcement executive by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police in 2006 and has served as board president for Metro SWAT since 2005.

As an instructor at the University of Akron and Kent State University, Chief Dirker has shown a dedication to training the next generation of law enforcement leaders.

Chief and Mrs. Dirker have six children, several of whom have also pursued their own careers in law enforcement. Chief Dirker remains an active member of Rotary, Fraternal Order of Police, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 14th District of Ohio, I congratulate Chief Dirker on his well-deserved retirement and thank him for his lifelong service to Northeast Ohio and our nation.

TRIBUTE TO TRACIE A. MCCALEP

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Mrs. Tracie A. McCalep has answered that call by giving of herself as a paraprofessional at Dunaire Elementary School, and as a beloved wife, daughter and friend; and

Whereas, Mrs. McCalep has been chosen as the 2014 Educational Support Professional of the Year, representing Dunaire Elementary School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, unyielding support and words of encouragement; and

Whereas, Mrs. McCalep is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision, talents and passion to help ensure that our children receive the support and education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this

day to honor and recognize Mrs. Tracie A. McCalep for her leadership and service for our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2014 Educational Support Professional of the Year at Dunaire Elementary School; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim April 2, 2014 as Mrs. Tracie A. McCalep Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of April, 2014.

TRIBUTE TO MITCH TYLER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mitch Tyler of Exceptional Persons, Inc. for being selected as Iowa's 2014 recipient of the Direct Support Professional of the Year Award by the American Network of Community Options and Resources.

Since its founding in 1970, the American Network of Community Options and Resources supports over 500,000 people with intellectual, developmental and other significant disabilities in the community through a national association of 700 private providers. ANCOR developed the Direct Support Professional Recognition Awards in 2007 to recognize devoted professionals who go above and beyond to positively change the lives of the people they serve. There is no doubt that these direct support professionals are critical to providing consistently excellent community support and services. Mitch's remarkable efforts are a testament to the life-changing work being done by Direct Support Professionals all across Iowa and our nation as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent community leaders like Mitch in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Tyler for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. Mitch's commitment to a cause greater than himself embodies the values and work ethic our state is renowned for. I know my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Mr. Tyler for receiving this prestigious award and thanking him for his invaluable efforts. I wish him the best of luck as he continues his award-winning career.

REMEMBERING THE HON. MICK STATON

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember former Congressman Mick Staton, fellow member of the freshman class of 1980 and a respected political, business and community leader in West Virginia. Mick passed away last month at the age of 74.

Mick was born and raised in Parkersburg, West Virginia and graduated from Parkersburg High School in 1958. He then attended Concord College in Athens, West Virginia, and

played on the 1962 conference championship football team. Mick married his wife Lynn, herself a 1960 graduate of Parkersburg High School, and have two children and five grandchildren.

Mick was Vice President for Data Processing for One Valley Bank (now BB&T), which was at the time, the largest bank in West Virginia, before first running for Congress in 1978, opposing 20-year incumbent John Slack (D-WV). In the race, Mick garnered 41 percent of the vote. In January 1980, Congressman Slack died in office and a special election was held. Although he did not win the special election, Mick went on to win the seat in the general election.

In Congress, Staton had a reputation of service to his constituents in what is now the 2nd District of West Virginia. He served on the Small Business Committee and Interior & Insular Affairs Committee, now known as the Natural Resources Committee.

After leaving Congress in 1983, Staton served as chief political advisor to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and was National Executive Director of the Chamber's political action committee. In 1992, he founded and served as president of Capitol Link, Inc., a government affairs consulting firm.

Most recently, Mick served as County Chairman of the Berkeley County GOP Executive Committee, from 2007 through December 2012. In recognition of his lifelong service, this March the West Virginia State Republican Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution naming Mick an Emeritus Member.

I submit the following article from West Virginia MetroNews on former Congressman Staton.

[From WV MetroNews, Apr. 20, 2014]

MICK STATON TO BE REMEMBERED MONDAY

(By Jeff Jenkins)

WINCHESTER, VA.—The life and service of former West Virginia Third District Congressman Mick Staton will be remembered in a memorial service set for Monday afternoon in Winchester, Virginia. The 74-year-old Staton died last week.

"Certainly anyone who was elected 30 years ago as a Republican in West Virginia showed a lot of tenacity, a lot of strength and was a trailblazer for our movement and set the stage for the successes we are having right now," West Virginia Republican Party Chairman Conrad Lucas said.

Staton, a Parkersburg native, lived in South Charleston when he defeated John Hutchinson in the 1980 election for what was then West Virginia's Third District seat. Hutchinson had beaten Staton in a special election earlier that year to fill the seat in the interim following the death of 11-term congressman John Slack. Staton served just one term. He lost to Democrat Bob Wise in 1982.

"Mick certainly set the stage for ultimate Republican successes and went on always to be a dedicated member of the party," Lucas said. "He may have lost his congressional seat but he still stayed very active in the internal aspects of the party."

Lucas said he was pleased Staton attended a GOP meeting earlier this year where he was given emeritus status.

"I was happy he could make the ceremony so we could honor his service, his long service, and very dedicated service to the Republican Party and people of West Virginia," he said.

The memorial service is scheduled for Monday at 1 p.m. at Braddock Street United Methodist Church in Winchester, Virginia.